

THE GROUNDS
OF
CATHOLIC DOCTRINE,
Contained in the Profession of Faith of Pius IV.

CHAP. I.—*Of the Church.*

Q. WAAT is your profession as to the article of the church ?

A. It is contained in these words of the Nicene Creed, " I believe one, holy, catholic and apostolic church."

Q. What do you gather from these words ?

A. 1. That Jesus Christ has always a true church upon earth. 2. That this church is always one, by the union of all her members in one faith and communion. 3. That she is always pure and holy in her doctrine and terms of communion, and consequently always free from pernicious errors. 4. That she is catholic, that is, universal, by being the church of all ages, and more or less of all nations. 5. That this church must have in her a succession from the apostles, and a lawful mission derived from them. 6.— Which follows from all the rest, that this true church of Christ cannot be any of the Protestant sects, but must be the ancient church, communicating with the Pope or Bishop of Rome.

SECT. I.

That Christ has always a true Church upon earth.

Q. How do you prove that Christ has always a true church upon earth ?

A. From many plain texts of scripture, in which it is promised or foretold, that the church, or